

THE URBAN DISTRICT OF FORMBY.INTERIM REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTHFOR THE YEAR 1939.Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.

Area in acres - 7,308

Population (Census 1931) - 7,957. Estimated resident population,  
(middle 1938) - 8,563.

Number of inhabited houses (Census, 1931) - 1,955.

Number of inhabited houses end of year 1939, according to Rate Book,  
- 2,413.

Rateable Value, £78,386. Sum represented by a penny rate, £309.

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES  
IN THE AREA.

Hospitals.

Smallpox and Other Infectious Diseases. - There is no Infectious Diseases Hospital in the District, but an arrangement has been in force for many years whereby cases were received in the Bootle Infectious Diseases Hospital. The agreement with the Bootle Corporation provided for the reception of all Notifiable Diseases with the exception of Smallpox, into the Isolation Hospital, Linacre Lane, Bootle, and for the reception of Smallpox cases into the Liverpool Corporation Smallpox Hospital, Sparrow Hall, Fazakerley. For Infectious Diseases other than Smallpox there was no retaining fee and no beds were reserved. Cases were received if accommodation was available. In the case of Smallpox there was a retaining fee, and the agreement provided for the reservation of one bed for each ten thousand of the population with a minimum of five beds and additional beds to be provided subject to the necessary accommodation being available.

Under the Local Government Act, 1929, Section 63, the Council have entered into a joint agreement between the Urban District Councils of Formby and Litherland on the one part, and the Borough of Bootle on the other part. This agreement provides for the reservation of sixteen beds for infectious diseases other than smallpox. The existing arrangements for smallpox remain.

Details of charges under the agreement with Bootle Corporation for all Notifiable Diseases other than smallpox and for smallpox, are as follows:-

Retaining Fee (Smallpox) £2 per thousand of the population with a minimum of £10. Fee paid for the year 1938, £16.0.0.

Maintenance in Hospital (Smallpox) £4.4.0. per week plus cost of conveyance at the rate of 2/6d per mile calculated according to the distance travelled after the ambulance leaves the Liverpool Corporation Depot until its return thereto.

Retaining fee (Other Infectious Diseases) £90 per annum based upon the capital cost of Bootle Hospital less the capital cost of the Tuberculosis section.

Maintenance in Hospital is £2.2.0. per week, plus cost of conveyance as given below.

Removal of patients any week day except Saturday, between the hours of 7 a.m., and 3 p.m., and on Saturday, between the hours of 7 a.m., and 11 a.m. - £1.5.0. per journey.

Removal of patients at any time other than stated above - £1.17.6. per journey.

Tuberculosis. - Administered by the County Council. Tuberculosis Dispensary - 7, Claremont Road, Seaforth.

Maternity - There is no Maternity Hospital in the District, but the Liverpool Hospitals are available.

Ambulance Facilities -

(a) For infectious cases Bootle Corporation Motor Ambulance.

(b) For non-infectious cases - provided by Hospital;  
For accidents - provided by the County Authority through the Police.

The ambulance services have proved quite adequate, and as these services are provided by other authorities no arrangements have been made in regard to co-ordination.

Professional Nursing in the Home. - The Local Authority has not provided any home nursing. There are two District Nurses who work under the District Nursing Association. They are not subsidized by the Local Authority.

The District Nurses' address is:- 23, Halsall Lane, Formby.

Midwives - The number of midwives practising in the District and on the County Register, 31/12/39, is four.

Public Assistance Institutions - There are no Public Assistance Institutions situated in the District. The District of Formby is in the area provided for by the Lancashire County Council Public Assistance Institution and Infirmary, Ormskirk.

Nursing Homes - There are two Nursing Homes in the District registered under the Public Health Act, 1936:-

Ivy Bank Nursing Home, Elson Road, Formby.

"Lynwood", Church Road, Formby.

After the outbreak of War the above provisions had in some instances to be changed.

For a short period all notifiable infectious cases were removed to the Infectious Diseases Hospital, Ormskirk. Later arrangements were made by the Bootle Corporation with whom we were under contract for cases to be received into the Liverpool Hospitals. Maintenance charges, £3.3.0. per week plus cost of removal at the rate of 2/6d per mile.

Due to the curtailment of hospital accommodation no diphtheria suspects were removed to hospital, only those cases where swabs had proved Positive.

Scarlet Fever cases were, if possible, nursed in the home. These arrangements did not apply to evacuees. Evacuees were in every instance removed to hospital.

To deal with minor infectious cases amongst evacuees, a house known as "Lismore, College Avenue, Formby, was taken over and equipped for this purpose.

"Herbert House", Victoria Road, Formby, was taken over as a Maternity Hospital for evacuees and a number of expectant mothers were billeted in the district for several weeks prior to admission to "Herbert House" and during that period they attended the ante-natal clinic.



The number of infectious cases notified was rather higher than usual but was only to be expected due to the increased population owing to evacuees being billeted in the district.

Below I give the number of cases notified:-

Scarlet Fever	28	Removed to Hospital	10
Diphtheria	18	do.	15
Measles	1	do.	-
Pneumonia	16	do.	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	2	do.	1
Erysipelas	<u>2</u>	do.	<u>-</u>
	67		26

### Tuberculosis

#### New Cases and Mortality during the Year 1939.

	<u>New Cases</u>			<u>Deaths</u>		
	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Pulmonary	2	-	2	4	3	7
Non-Pulmonary	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>
	<u>3</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>9</u>

During the year there was a mild epidemic of Influenza.

#### Prevention and Control of Infectious Diseases.

During the year 65 houses and 5 schools were disinfected. All articles (bedding, clothing, etc.) exposed to infection are disinfected at the Council's Disinfecting Station.

Number of articles treated - 1964

Number of articles destroyed at request of owners - 14.

Disinfection on Charge:- Houses 8, Bedding, clothing, etc - No. of articles - 350.

Articles destroyed - 1.

Disinfection carried out for "Lismore" Minor Infectious Diseases Hospital:-

Rooms - 3, Bedding, clothing, etc., No. of Articles - 1155.

Disinfection for A.R.P.:- Blankets, etc. Number - 227.

Disinfection after evacuees:- Rooms 16, Bedding, etc., Number of Articles - 365.

### IMMUNIZATION

All new residents at St. Peter's College and St. George's Industrial School are immunized against diphtheria.

The Council have now in operation an Immunization Scheme for both diphtheria and scarlet fever.

<u>Number immunized</u> - Diphtheria	84
Scarlet Fever	<u>60</u>
	<u>144</u>



INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Cowsheds and Dairies. - All cowsheds, etc., were visited regularly and the conditions are fairly good - No. of inspections, 75. One cowshed entirely remodelled. New dairy and sterilizing plant.

No. of samples submitted for Biological Test for Tuberculosis - 16.  
Result - Positive Nil. Negative 16.

No. of samples submitted for Bacteriological examination - 21.  
Result - Satisfactory, 19. Unsatisfactory, 2.

No. of sediment tests - 20. Satisfactory, 17. Unsatisfactory, 3.

Meat, etc. - All shops, etc., have been inspected regularly.  
48 lbs. unsound meat surrendered and destroyed.

Adulteration, etc. - Samples are taken under the Food and Drugs Act by the County Police and the following particulars have been furnished by the Police:-

No. of samples taken and submitted for analysis -  
Milk, 13, Tea, 1, Rice, 1, Semolina 1, Coffee and Chicory 1,  
Beef Suet 1, Sudletex Powder 1, Table Jelly 1, Sago 1, Mustard 1.  
No proceedings instituted.

DISEASES OF ANIMALS ACTS.

The following particulars have been forwarded by the County Police:- No proceedings were instituted under the above Acts.

FACTORY ACT 1937.

Periodical inspections have been made and in four instances Notices were served.

Total No. of Inspections - 47  
Defects found - Want of cleanliness, 3  
Defective sanitary fitting, 1.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

Child Welfare. - The Formby Child Welfare Centre is administered by the County Council in conjunction with a Local Ladies' Committee. The premises are situated at 25, Chapel Lane, and a clinic is held every Wednesday afternoon from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m., for children under five years of age.

The Superintendent attends weekly and the Medical Officer fortnightly.

An ante-natal clinic is held on alternate Thursdays, from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

During the latter portion of the year a number of additional clinics were held for evacuees.

Medical Officer: Dr. Winnifred M. Gray, Assistant County M.O.H.  
Superintendent: Nurse G.M. Hughes, Health Visitor and School Nurse for the District.

Consultant Obstetrician: Mr. Mackintosh Marshall.

Joint Hon. Secretaries and Treasurers of the Ladies' Committee:

Miss M.D. Buckley, South Dene, Derby Road, Formby.  
Miss B.R. Hacking, Marsh Court, Victoria Road, Formby.

M.G. GARRY,  
L.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., L.M.,

Medical Officer of Health.

